

King County Green Schools Program

This program provides King County schools with tools and support needed to

- initiate and expand conservation practices.
- operate environmentally efficient and responsible facilities.
- involve the whole school community in environmental stewardship.

Level One - Waste Reduction and Recycling

Program services include

- site visit to assess waste reduction and recycling practices.
- recommendations to help decrease garbage and expand recycling.
- recycling containers and signs.
- assistance educating students and staff about reducing waste and recycling.
- follow-up help to expand changes and promote successes.

Levels Two and Three

- Energy Conservation (required in Level Two)
- Environmental Education
- Environmental Purchasing
- Green Building
- Hazardous Materials Management
- Litter Reduction
- Transportation Choices
- Water Conservation (required in Level Three)

Recognition

Each school and district that meets program criteria receives a "We are a King County Green School" banner, certificates of recognition, and a success story on the county web site.

To Apply

Participants are selected on a first come, first served basis. Contact Dale Alekel at 206-296-8457 or dale.alekel@kingcounty.gov, or visit kingcounty.gov/solidwaste and select *Green Schools Program*.

Alternative Formats On Request
206-296-4466 | TTY Relay: 711
1-800-325-6165 ext. 6-4466



Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Solid Waste Division
King Street Center, Suite 701
201 S. Jackson St.
Seattle, WA 98104-3855



King County

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Videos

To borrow a video, call 206-296-4466.

Gotta Have It – For grades 5 - 8 — This video, which comes with a discussion guide for teachers, features local young actors in a story about the media and marketing to teens, our buying habits, and consumption of natural resources. (16 minutes)

Natural Connections – For grades 6 - 12 — Learn about the natural connection among humans, the environment, and the plants and animals that share the Earth. Learn what important role biological diversity - or biodiversity- plays in keeping our ecosystems balanced. (42 minutes)

Studies in Stewardship – For grades 4 - 12 — See the environmental projects accomplished by three local schools: Snoqualmie Elementary, Tolt Middle School, and West Auburn High School. (8 minutes)

Stuff Video Project – For grades 8 - 12 — Students from Foster High School in Tukwila helped develop and produce this video which consists of three short pieces on consumption and depletion of natural resources. The video comes with a discussion guide for teachers.

2008-2009

Recycling and Resource Conservation School Programs



For Middle and High School Students and Teachers Grades 6-12

From the King County
Solid Waste Division



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks
Solid Waste Division

Workshop Features

GLE Oriented – Workshops align with GLEs for science, communications, math, social studies and other subjects.

Hands On – Students are engaged through hands-on activities relevant to their every-day lives.

Interactive Group Work – Students work in small groups, rotating through stations and project tasks.

Critical Thinking Skills

– Students are challenged to make connections to real-world issues and think for themselves. Students apply what they learn using activity sheets, games, and quizzes.



Action Oriented – Each workshop asks students to think how the topic relates to their lives and what steps they can take to make a difference for the environment.

Service Learning – Workshops can lead directly to service learning projects where students apply what they learn to real projects in their schools and communities.

Flexible Class Length

– Workshops last 50 minutes, but can also be extended to 75 minutes or a two-day session.

Find us on the web at

kingcounty.gov/solidwaste and select *Education & Schools Assistance*.



King County EcoConnections Workshops – Request these FREE presentations for your classroom.

Focus on Earth and Environment

Act for Recycling – It’s time to talk... recycling! Students become both studio audience and experts on a “talk show” hosted by the presenter to emphasize how recycling can help preserve natural resources, save landfill space, conserve energy and even reduce the factors that contribute to climate change. Students close the gap between concept and action. A mini-audit of their school, which students can complete before the workshop, will provide helpful information for assessing and improving the campus recycling program.

– Presenter did a great job connecting with students and making it fun.
– Middle school teacher.

Biodiversity in Our World – What is biodiversity and why is it important for survival on Earth? Students are actively engaged in a discussion of real-world issues such as habitat protection, population growth, and pollution. Through challenging and fun hands-on activities, students gain a clear understanding of human impacts on the planet and how our personal choices can make a difference. High school version includes references to climate change. The award-winning video “Natural Connections” is highly recommended as preparation for this workshop.

– The workshop and instructor were fantastic. This workshop satisfies the GLEs and then some. I would not have the time or resources to put together such a wonderful activity/presentation. – High school teacher

– I used to feel that big issues like biodiversity were beyond my control. Now I know that I can help! – Junior high student

Biospheres – What can studying a closed-system ecosphere model tell us about how our actions affect the earth? Students discuss biotic and abiotic factors and natural cycles that occur within the ecosphere model and compare this system with the Earth. Working in pairs, students rethink their daily consumption and disposal habits and learn ways to live more sustainably. For high school groups, discussion can include the human impact on climate change.

– Did a fabulous job implementing questioning strategies to probe for student understanding. A lot of material was covered in an efficient manner. -- Middle school teacher



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Focus on Consumption and Sustainability

Consumption Junction – How do our lifestyles affect the quality of the Earth’s environment? Through studying the life cycle of an aluminum can from bauxite to recycling, students learn about the time, energy, and natural resources that go into making an everyday product, the resulting environmental impacts, and how we can limit consumption to create a more sustainable future. Combine this workshop with Earth Impact and/or Think Twice for a complete unit.

– I am very appreciative of it because it helps me with some of the GLEs and EALRs...Knowledge and action in these subject areas are crucial to the quality of life we hope to continue on this planet. – Middle school teacher

– Please keep it up - we love it! – High school teacher

Earth Impact: Overconsumption or Sustainability? – How and why do we choose what to buy and what impact do these choices have on our planet? Rotating through stations that explore advertising, packaging, and our ecological footprint, students recognize the impacts their choices have on the environment and learn how to choose more sustainable products. Students use critical thinking and problem-solving skills in order to make informed decisions. The high school version includes a more in-depth look at what sustainability is and the different ways to adopt a sustainable lifestyle. Combine this workshop with Consumption Junction and/or Think Twice for a complete unit.

– Always a pleasure. Programs are very well done and cover a lot of material in a short period of time. Require students to think critically about their environmental choices. – Middle school teacher

– I liked how the lesson was so hands-on. That really helped to get the information to stick. – High school student

Think Twice – This discussion-based workshop focuses on the concept of product stewardship, in which responsibility for the environmental effects of a product is considered at all stages of its life cycle. Students learn the importance of making

conscious, sustainable choices as they discover that their consumption choices may have unintended effects on the environment and human health. Students explore how they can “think twice” by discussing examples of how their peers around the country are making a difference. This advanced workshop draws on critical thinking skills as it explores the use of popular teen products such as cell phones, iPods, and computers. Earth Impact or Consumption Junction is recommended as a prerequisite for this workshop.

– These workshops add to my science instruction and bring the "real" world into my classroom. – Middle school teacher

– I will be more careful about how my lifestyle affects the environment.
– High school student

All workshops have been updated to relate to current issues and fit in with secondary GLEs. Workshops are adapted for grade level.

Mix categories for breadth or match categories for depth of study.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Education

Hazards on the Homefront Workshop

This teacher workshop provides you with the information you need to teach your students about hazardous products in the home and their effects on human health and the environment. At the workshop, you’ll receive everything you need to teach this topic, including a free curriculum guide with fun, adaptable lesson plans, overheads, and other classroom materials. Call 206-583-0655 or visit kingcounty.gov/solidwaste and select *Education & Schools Assistance*

HHW Mini-Grant

Grants in amounts ranging from \$50–\$500 are available for teachers who have participated in the Hazards on the Homefront workshop and who would like to complete a HHW project. Meet five simple guidelines and we’ll send you the grant money! Call 206-583-0655 or visit kingcounty.gov/solidwaste and select *Education & Schools Assistance*.

Workshop Registration

Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Register by calling 206-583-0655 ext 110 or email workshops@triangleassociates.com.

Request our Programs for Educators Directory, an annotated list of programs and services for teachers offered by King County. Call 206-296-4353.

For more information on these and other programs, visit kingcounty.gov/solidwaste and select *Education & Schools Assistance*.



Environmental Project Support

To request project support, contact a Green Team Specialist at 206-583-0655, or email greenteam@triangleassociates.com.

Project Support and Green Teams — Is your class or environmental club ready to move from classroom learning to environmental action? A Green Team is a group of students ready to take action to become environmental stewards at school, at home, or in the community. Typical school projects include improving or expanding school recycling programs, stenciling storm drains, planting native gardens, or educating peers or younger students about environmental topics. Workshops and assistance for getting started on a project are available. Green Teams that complete projects are eligible to win prizes and recognition. .



Green Team Mini-Grants — King County Solid Waste Division offers mini-grants in amounts up to \$500 to support educational activities related to waste reduction, recycling, and resource conservation. Applying is quick and easy. Call 206-583-0655 for an application.

To schedule a FREE EcoConnections workshop, call 206-583-0655 or email workshops@triangleassociates.com.

If you receive a duplicate of this mailer, please post or pass on to a friend.